

C L A I M S

1. A method for the production of zinc flake from zinc particles which comprises dry milling said zinc particles using a mixture of a fluorocarbon lubricant and a stearate lubricant, optionally in admixture with a hydrophobic inorganic powder.
2. A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the zinc particles used have a particle size of from 1 to 40 microns.
3. A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the zinc particles used in the form of zinc dust and have a particle size of from 1 to 15 microns.
4. A method as claimed in claim 3, wherein said dust has a particle size of 4 to 6 microns.
5. A method as claimed in 1, wherein the fluorocarbon lubricant is PTFE
6. A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the fluorocarbon lubricant is present in an amount of from 1 to 5 weight percent based on the weight of zinc.
7. A method as claimed in 1, wherein stearate lubricant is lithium stearate.
8. A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the stearate is present in an amount which is less than the amount of fluorocarbon lubricant.
9. A method as claimed in claim 8, wherein the stearate is present in an amount of from one third to two thirds of the amount of fluorocarbon lubricant.
10. A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein said hydrophobic inorganic powder is hydrophobic fumed silica.

11. A method as claimed in claim 10, wherein said hydrophobic inorganic particles are present in an amount of from 0.1 to 0.5 based on the amount of fluorocarbon lubricant.
12. A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein said zinc particles are milled for a sufficient period to produce flakes having an average diameter of from 10 to 15 microns and a thickness of from 1 to 2 microns.
13. A method as claimed in claim 3, wherein the fluorocarbon lubricant is PTFE.
14. A method as claimed in claim 7, wherein the stearate is present in an amount which is less than the amount of fluorocarbon lubricant.
15. A method as claimed in claim 3, wherein the fluorocarbon lubricant is PTFE and the stearate lubricant is lithium stearate.
16. A method as claimed in claim 15, wherein a hydrophobic inorganic powder is present and is hydrophobic fumed silica.
17. A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the zinc is mixed or alloyed with nickel.